Applicant: Masatsugu Maeda et al.

Serial No.: 10/006,265

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, 4, or 17.

2-10. (Cancelled)

- 11. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising the steps of culturing the transformant of claim 5cell of claim 38 and recovering a polypeptide expressed from the transformantcell or the culture supernatant thereof.
- 12. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising the steps of culturing the transformant of claim 6cell of claim 39 and recovering a polypeptide expressed from the transformantcell or the culture supernatant thereof.

13-27. (Cancelled)

- 28. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising the steps of culturing the transformant of claim 22cell of claim 40 and recovering a polypeptide expressed from the transformantcell or the culture supernatant thereof.
- 29. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising the steps of culturing the transformant of claim 26cell of claim 41 and recovering a polypeptide expressed from the transformantcell or the culture supernatant thereof.

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30. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising the steps of culturing the transformant of claim 23 cell of claim 44 and recovering a polypeptide expressed from the transformant cell or the culture supernatant thereof.

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- 31. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising the steps of culturing the transformant of claim 27 cell of claim 45 and recovering a polypeptide expressed from the transformant cell or the culture supernatant thereof.
- 32. (New) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence from the 33rd Ala to 652nd Asp in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, from 33rd Ala to 252nd Val in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, or from 33rd Ala to 662nd Ile in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:17.
- 33. (New) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, 4 or 17, wherein the fragment is at least 7 amino acid residues in length.
- 34. (New) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 33, wherein the fragment is more than 8 amino acid residues in length.
- 35. (New) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 33, wherein the fragment is more than 9 amino acid residues in length.
 - 36. (New) A vector into which the nucleic acid of claim 1 is inserted.
 - 37. (New) A vector into which the nucleic acid of claim 32 is inserted.
 - 38. (New) An isolated cell harboring the nucleic acid of claim 1.
 - 39. (New) An isolated cell harboring the nucleic acid of claim 32.
 - 40. (New) An isolated cell harboring the vector of claim 36.

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> 41. (New) An isolated cell harboring the vector of claim 37.

(New) An isolated nucleic acid comprising the coding region of the nucleotide 42. sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, 3, or 16.

- 43. (New) A vector into which the nucleic acid of claim 42 is inserted.
- 44. (New) An isolated cell harboring the nucleic acid of claim 42.
- 45. (New) An isolated cell harboring the vector of claim 43.
- 46. (New) An isolated nucleic acid consisting of a nucleotide sequence encoding a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, 4, or 17, wherein the fragment is at least 7 amino acid residues in length.
- 47. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 46, wherein the fragment is more than 9 amino acid residues in length.
- 48. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the protein consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, 4 or 17.